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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/842,025

Applicant(s)

BU ET AL.

Examiner

Hai V. Nguyen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 03 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 November 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-41 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-41 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is in response to the communication received on 09 November 2005.
2. Claims 1-41 are presented for examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. - Claims 1-41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **MacNaughton et al.** U.S patent no. **5,796,393** in view of **Kumar et al.** U.S patent no. **6,278,993 B1**.
5. As to claim 1, MacNaughton discloses a method of retrieving electronic data from a communications system, the method comprising:

establishing a connection between a client system (*Fig. 1A, a user or a subscriber with browser 10*) and a host system (*Fig. 1A, a community server 18*) using a first account of a user (*MacNaughton, Abstract, col. 1, line 50 - col. 2, line 33*);

initiating a first communication session over the connection associated with the first account of the user maintained by the host system (*MacNaughton, Abstract, col. 1, line 50 - col. 2, line 33; col. 3, lines 35-61*); and however, MacNaughton does not explicitly disclose automatically initiating, over the same connection to the host system, one or

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more additional communication sessions associated with one or more additional accounts of the user maintained by the host system.

In the same filed of endeavor, Kumar discloses (*e.g., extending an on-line internet*) automatically initiating, over the same connection to the host system (*Kumar, Fig. 1, the host system 15*), one or more additional communication sessions (*Kumar, WEB pages or destinations*) (*Kumar, Fig. 2, additional web sites like mybank.com, mystocks.com, myshopping.com, mortgage.com, etc.*) associated with one or more additional accounts (*Kumar, Fig. 2, additional accounts like mybank account, mystocks account, myshopping account, mortgage account, etc.*) of the user maintained by the host system. Kumar also discloses *when a user invokes a hyperlink from his personal list; software 35 uses the subscriber's personal information to provide an automatic and transparent log-in function for the subscriber while jumping the subscriber to the subject destination (Kumar, col. 12, lines 9-26). Kumar discloses that an add function enables a user to add additional URL's to list 34. Other ways to add accounts are described above (col. 10, lines 24-40). Kumar also discloses in Fig. 1 that mass repository 29 is used for storing subscriber information such as passwords, log-in names, and the like (Kumar, col. 11, lines 9-18). Kumar also discloses that If the subscriber navigates by use of the local browser to a WEB page requiring a secure log-in, such as his/her on-line banking destination, when the subscriber is presented with an input window for ID and Password, the plug in may be activated by a predetermined user input, such as a hot key or right click of the mouse device. The plug-in then accesses, transparently, the*

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Password-All page (which may be cached at the client), and automatically accesses and provides the needed data for log-on, (Kumar, col. 9, lines 9-22).

Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the networking art at the time the invention was made to have incorporated Kumar teachings of and transparent log-in function for the subscriber (*Kumar, col. 12, lines 9-26*) with the teachings of MacNaughton, for the purpose of *allowing a user to access a complete list of the user's usual cyberspace destinations or WEB pages or communication sessions, (Kumar, col. 12, lines 9-26)*. MacNaughton also suggests that *the Communities of the present invention may serve as a starting or focal point for Web navigating. The present invention provides a structure for a Web experience and helps users avoid being overwhelmed or overloaded by the complexity of the Web (MacNaughton, col. 4, lines 6-56)*.

6. As to claim 2, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses accessing electronic data associated with the first account of the user (*MacNaughton, Abstract, col. 3, line 8 - col. 4, line 56*).

7. As to claim 3, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses accessing electronic data associated with the one or more additional accounts of the user (*MacNaughton, Abstract, col. 3, line 8 - col. 4, line 56; Kumar, col. 4, line 14 – col. 5, line 12; col. 8, line 11 – col. 9, line 33*).

8. As to claim 4, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses accessing electronic data associated with the one or more additional accounts of the user (*MacNaughton,*

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Abstract, col. 3, line 8 - col. 4, line 56; Kumar, col. 4, line 14 – col. 5, line 12; col. 8, line 11 – col. 9, line 33).

9. As to claim 5, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses, wherein accessing electronic data comprises retrieving email (*MacNaughton, Abstract, col. 3, line 8 - col. 4, line 56; Kumar, col. 4, line 14 – col. 5, line 12; col. 8, line 11 – col. 9, line 33).*

10. As to claim 6, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses, wherein accessing electronic data comprises sending e-mail (*MacNaughton, Abstract, col. 3, line 8 - col. 4, line 56; Kumar, col. 4, line 14 – col. 5, line 12; col. 8, line 11 – col. 9, line 33).*

11. As to claim 7, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses, wherein accessing electronic data comprises downloading one or more files (*Kumar, col. 4, line 14 – col. 5, line 12; col. 8, line 11 – col. 9, line 33; col. 10, lines 41-51).*

12. As to claim 8, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses, wherein accessing electronic data comprises retrieving messages posted on a message board (*MacNaughton, Abstract, col. 3, line 8 - col. 4, line 56; Kumar, col. 4, line 14 – col. 5, line 12; col. 8, line 11 – col. 9, line 33).*

13. As to claim 9, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses, wherein accessing electronic data comprises posting messages to a message board (*MacNaughton, Abstract, col. 3, line 8 - col. 4, line 56; Kumar, col. 4, line 14 – col. 5, line 12; col. 8, line 11 – col. 9, line 33).*

14. As to claim 10, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses wherein the first account and the one or more additional accounts of the user comprise different screen names (*MacNaughton, Abstract, col. 3, line 8 - col. 4, line 56; Kumar, Fig. 2; col. 4, line 14 – col. 5, line 12; col. 8, line 11 – col. 9, line 33; col. 9, line 59 - col. 10, line 51).*

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15. As to claim 11, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses, wherein automatically initiating one or more additional communication sessions comprises automatically switching between the different screen names (*MacNaughton, Abstract, col. 2, line 50 – col. 3, line 5; col. 3, line 8 - col. 4, line 56; Kumar, Fig. 2; col. 4, line 14 – col. 5, line 12; col. 8, line 11 – col. 9, line 33; col. 9, line 59 - col. 10, line 51*).

16. As to claim 12, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses setting preferences for initiating the first communication session (*MacNaughton, Abstract, col. 2, line 50 – col. 3, line 5; col. 3, line 8 - col. 4, line 56; Kumar, Fig. 2; col. 4, line 14 – col. 5, line 12; col. 8, line 11 – col. 9, line 33; col. 9, line 59 - col. 10, line 51*).

17. As to claim 13, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses, wherein setting preferences comprises scheduling a time to initiate the first communication session (*MacNaughton, Abstract, col. 2, line 50 – col. 3, line 5; col. 3, line 8 - col. 4, line 56; Kumar, Fig. 2; col. 4, line 14 – col. 5, line 12; col. 8, line 11 – col. 9, line 33; col. 9, line 59 - col. 10, line 51; col. 12, lines 9-44*).

18. As to claim 14, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses setting preferences for initiating the one or more additional communications sessions (*MacNaughton, Abstract, col. 2, line 50 – col. 3, line 5; col. 3, line 8 - col. 4, line 56; Kumar, Fig. 2; col. 4, line 14 – col. 5, line 12; col. 8, line 11 – col. 9, line 33; col. 9, line 59 - col. 10, line 51; col. 12, lines 9-44*).

19. As to claim 15, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses, wherein setting preferences comprises scheduling a time to automatically initiate the one or more: additional communications session (*MacNaughton, Abstract, col. 2, line 50 – col. 3, line 5; col. 3,*

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line 8 - col. 4, line 56; Kumar, Fig. 2; col. 4, line 14 – col. 5, line 12; col. 8, line 11 – col. 9, line 33; col. 9, line 59 - col. 10, line 51; col. 12, lines 9-44).

20. As to claim 16, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses setting different preferences for initiating the first communication session and for initiating the one or more additional communication sessions (*MacNaughton, Abstract, col. 2, line 50 – col. 3, line 5; col. 3, line 8 - col. 4, line 56; Kumar, Fig. 2; col. 4, line 14 – col. 5, line 12; col. 8, line 11 – col. 9, line 33; col. 9, line 59 - col. 10, line 51; col. 12, lines 9-44).*

21. As to claim 17, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses, wherein the first communication session is initiated automatically (*MacNaughton, Abstract, col. 2, line 50 – col. 3, line 5; col. 3, line 8 - col. 4, line 56; Kumar, Fig. 3; col. 4, line 14 – col. 5, line 12; col. 8, line 11 – col. 9, line 33; col. 9, line 59 - col. 10, line 51; col. 12, lines 9-44).*

22. As to claim 18, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses running the first communication session and the one or more additional communication sessions in parallel (*MacNaughton, Abstract, col. 2, line 50 – col. 3, line 5; col. 3, line 8 - col. 4, line 56; Kumar, Fig. 2; col. 4, line 14 – col. 5, line 12; col. 8, line 11 – col. 9, line 33; col. 9, line 59 - col. 10, line 51; col. 12, lines 9-44).*

23. As to claim 19, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses, wherein the user comprises a single member of an online service (*MacNaughton, Abstract, col. 2, line 50 – col. 3, line 5; col. 3, line 8 - col. 4, line 56; Kumar, Fig. 2; col. 4, line 14 – col. 5, line 12; col. 8, line 11 – col. 9, line 33; col. 9, line 59 - col. 10, line 51; col. 12, lines 9-44).*

24. As to claim 20, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses, wherein the user comprises multiple members of the online service (*MacNaughton, Abstract, col. 2, line 50 – col. 3,*

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line 5; col. 3, line 8 - col. 4, line 56; Kumar, Fig. 2; col. 4, line 14 – col. 5, line 12; col. 8, line 11 – col. 9, line 33; col. 9, line 59 - col. 10, line 51; col. 12, lines 9-44).

25. As to claim 21, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses, wherein the multiple members are related (*MacNaughton, Abstract, col. 2, line 50 – col. 3, line 5; col. 3, line 8 - col. 4, line 56; Kumar, Fig. 2; col. 4, line 14 – col. 5, line 12; col. 8, line 11 – col. 9, line 33; col. 9, line 59 - col. 10, line 51; col. 12, lines 9-44).*

26. Claim 22 is corresponding computer readable medium claim of claim 1; therefore, it is rejected under the same rationale as in claim 1.

27. Claims 23-26 are similar limitations of claims 3, 5, 7, 10, 11; therefore, they are rejected under the same rationale as in claims 3, 5, 7, 10, 11.

28. Claim 27 is corresponding apparatus claim of claim 1; therefore, it is rejected under the same rationale as in claim 1.

29. As to claim 28, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses, wherein automatically initiating comprises automatically initiating, over the same connection to the host system, one or more additional communication sessions associated with one or more additional accounts of the user maintained by the host system in response to a preference set by the user prior to initiation of the one or more additional communication sessions (*Kumar, a subscribing user operating an Internet-capable appliance, such as appliance 17, connects to Password-All Portal system 11 hosted by ISP 15, and thereby gains access to a personalized, interactive WEB page, which in turn provides access to any one of a number of servers on Internet 13 such as servers 23, 25, and 27, without being required to enter additional passwords or codes" (col. 6, line 64 – col. 7, line 5)).*

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30. As to claim 29, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses, wherein automatically initiating comprises automatically initiating, over the same connection to the host system, one or more additional communication sessions between the client system and the host system associated with one or more additional accounts of the user maintained by the host system (*Kumar, ISP 145 is provided within PSTN 143 and is adapted to perform Internet-access services as known in the art. ISP 145 comprises a modem bank 171, represented herein by a single modem icon, and an Internet connection server 169 adapted to connect subscribers to Internet 141. Connection server 169 is illustrated as having connection to Internet backbone 157 by an Internet access line 167. Access line 167 may be any suitable connection means known in the art for maintaining Internet connectivity for a plurality of users accessing Internet 141 through server 169 (Kumar col. 21, lines 1-10; col. 9, lines 9-22; col. 10, lines 24-40; col. 11, lines 9-18, col. 12, lines 9-26)*)).

31. As to claim 30, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses, wherein authentication information associated with the one or more additional accounts of the user may be used to enable access to the host system (*Kumar, col. 8, lines 11-27*).

32. As to claim 31, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses, wherein authentication information associated with each of the one or more additional accounts of the user may be used to enable access to the host system (*Kumar, col. 8, lines 11-27*).

33. As to claim 32, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses, wherein authentication information associated with the first account and at least one of the one or more

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additional accounts of the user may be used to enable access to the host system
(Kumar, col. 8, lines 11-27).

34. As to claim 33, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses, wherein establishing the connection between a client system and the host system and initiating a first communication session over the connection associated with the first account of the user occur automatically and without user manipulation (*Kumar, a subscribing user operating an Internet-capable appliance, such as appliance 17, connects to Password-All Portal system 11 hosted by ISP 15, and thereby gains access to a personalized, interactive WEB page, which in turn provides access to any one of a number of servers on Internet 13 such as servers 23, 25, and 27, without being required to enter additional passwords or codes*" (col. 6, line 64 – col. 7, line 5).

35. As to claim 34, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses, wherein automatically initiating, over the same connection to the host system, one or more additional communication sessions associated with one or more additional accounts of the user maintained by the host system occurs automatically and without user manipulation (*Kumar, a subscribing user operating an Internet-capable appliance, such as appliance 17, connects to Password-All Portal system 11 hosted by ISP 15, and thereby gains access to a personalized, interactive WEB page, which in turn provides access to any one of a number of servers on Internet 13 such as servers 23, 25, and 27, without being required to enter additional passwords or codes*" (col. 6, line 64 – col. 7, line 5).

36. As to claim 35, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses, automatically synchronizing data (*Kumar, updating to the service*) related to the first account of the user or the one or

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more additional accounts of the user wherein, prior to synchronization, the data related to the first account of the user or the one or more additional accounts of the user was stored on only one of the client system or the host system (*Kumar, companies hosting WEB pages automatically provide their site logics and any logic updates to the service by virtue of an agreement between the service and the WEB hosts, col. 17, lines 2-5*).

37. As to claim 36, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses wherein synchronizing data comprises one or more of sending an e-mail message written using the client system when the client system was not connected to the host system, retrieving from the host system an unread e-mail message, posting a message to a newsgroup or message board that was written using the client system when the client system was not connected to the host system, and retrieving from the host system a message to a newsgroup or message board (*MacNaughton, col. 1, lines 36-49*).

38. As to claim 37, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses, wherein automatically synchronizing data related to each of several accounts associated with the user (*col. 17, lines 2-5*).

39. As to claim 38 MacNaughton-Kumar discloses, wherein: the host system is a network access service provider (*Kumar, Portal Service Provider*) that provides network access service to enable the user to access systems other than the host system, the first account of the user corresponds to a first e-mail account of the user provided by the host system, and one of the one or more additional accounts of the user corresponds to an additional e-mail account provided by the host system (*Kumar, col. 16, lines 10-25*).

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40. As to claim 39, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses, wherein, the host system (*Kumar, Fig. 1, the ISP 15*) is a network access service provider that provides network access service to enable the user to access systems (*Fig. 1, online banking system 23, online investment system 257, online travel system 27*) other than the host system, the first account (*Fig. 1, user account with Portal 35*) of the user corresponds to a first screen name (*Kumar, Fig. 2, personalized page*) for an instant messaging service provided by the host system, and one of the one or more additional accounts (*Fig. 2, online banking account*) of the user corresponds to an additional screen name (*Mybank home page, or mystocks web page*) for the instant messaging service provided by the host system (*Kumar, col. 16, lines 10-25*).

41. As to claim 40, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses wherein:

the host system is a network access service provider that provides network access service to enable the user to access systems other than the host system, one of the first account of the user or at least one of the one or more additional accounts of the user corresponds to a screen name for an instant messaging service provided by the host system, and other of the first account of the user or the at least one of the one or more additional accounts of the user correspond to an e-mail account provided by the host system (*Kumar, col. 16, lines 10-25*).

42. As to claim 41, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses, wherein automatically initiating comprises automatically initiating, over the same connection to the host system, at least one of the one or more additional communication sessions associated with one or more

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additional accounts of the user maintained by the host system when the user is not present at the client system (*Kumar, col. 6, line 64 – col. 7, line 5*).

Response to Arguments

43. Applicant's arguments filed 09 November 2005 have been fully considered but they are not deemed to be persuasive.

44. In the remark, Applicant argued in substance that

Point (A), the prior art discloses, *"those destinations are not maintained by the portal system hosted by the ISP 15"*.

As to point (A), Kumar discloses, *"in Fig. 8, ISP 145 is provided within PSTN 143 and is adapted to perform Internet-access services as known in the art. ISP 145 comprises a modem bank 171, represented herein by a single modem icon, and an Internet connection server 169 adapted to connect subscribers to Internet 141. Connection server 169 is illustrated as having connection to Internet backbone 157 by an Internet access line 167. Access line 167 may be any suitable connection means known in the art for maintaining Internet connectivity for a plurality of users accessing Internet 141 through server 169 (col. 21, lines 1-10)"*.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

45. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

46. Claims 1-41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over **Mellmer et al.** U.S patent application publication # **2005/0044423 A1**.

47. As to claim 1, Mellmer teaches substantially the invention as claimed (e.g., as in exemplary claim 1), including a method of retrieving electronic data from a communication system, the method comprising:

establishing a connection between a client system using a first account of a user (*Mellmer, Abstract, Figs. 30, 31; paragraphs [0013]-[0022]; [0203]-[0206]*);
initiating a first communication session over the connection associated with the first account of the user maintained by the host system (*Mellmer, Abstract, Figs. 30, 31; paragraphs [0013]-[0022]; [0203]-[0206]*); and
automatically initiating, over the same connection to the host system, one or more additional communication sessions associated with one or more additional accounts of the user maintained by the host system (*Mellmer, Abstract, Figs. 30, 31; paragraphs [0013]-[0022]; [0203]-[0207]*).

48. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the networking art at the time of the invention was made that the claimed invention differed from the teachings of

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Mellmer only by a degree, e.g., in the claimed one or more additional accounts of the user maintained by the host. But this is no more than a difference in a degree because one or more additional accounts or two accounts or just multiple accounts of the user taught by Mellmer, they provide a choice for the user. The heart of the invention is providing the user for automatically initiating, over the same connection to the host system, one or more additional communication sessions associated with one or more additional accounts of the user maintained by the host system for convenient accessing the Internet. Mellmer invention was exactly was directed to the same purpose, i.e., to provide the user both a DigitalMe account and a DigitalMe "accessCard" representing the partner site. If the user is already logged in to the DigitalMe account, the partner site login happens automatically without any intervention when the DigitalMe login image is clicked (Abstract, paragraph [0204]) for easier and better personal account management (paragraph [0011]). Other claimed elements of the dependent are all obvious variation of the well-known features of one connecting user with one or more additional accounts and rejected accordingly.

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Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

49. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

50. Claims 1-41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over **Pennell et al. U.S patent # 6,874,023 B1**.

51. As to claim 1, Pennell teaches substantially the invention as claimed, including a method of retrieving electronic data from a communication system, the method comprising:

establishing a connection between a client system and a host system (*Pennell, Email Control Center*) using a first account of a user (*Pennell, Abstract, Fig. 5; Abstract; col. 1, lines 32 – 62; col. 3, line 53 – col. 4, line 44*);

initiating a first communication session over the connection associated with the first account of the user maintained by the host system (*Pennell, Abstract, Fig. 5; Abstract; col. 1, lines 32 – 62; col. 3, line 53 – col. 4, line 44*); and

automatically initiating, over the same connection to the host system, one or more additional communication sessions associated with one or more additional accounts (*like Amazon.com, CNET, Eddie Bauer, eMarketer*) of the user maintained by the host system (*Pennell, Abstract, Fig. 5; Abstract; col. 1, lines 32 – 62; col. 3, line 53 – col. 4, line 44*).

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52. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the networking art at the time of the invention was made that the claimed invention differed from the teachings of Pennell only by a degree, e.g., in the claimed one or more additional accounts of the user maintained by the host. But this is no more than a difference in a degree because one or more additional accounts or two accounts or just multiple accounts of the user taught by Pennell, they provide a management choice for the user. The heart of the invention is providing the user for automatically initiating, over the same connection to the host system, one or more additional communication sessions associated with one or more additional accounts of the user maintained by the host system for convenient accessing the Internet. Pennell invention was exactly was directed to the same purpose, i.e., to provide the user's email inbox at the email center "BuyJupiter" to manage and to aggregate automatically the information at one site from the user's multiple email accounts the user visiting multiple sites (like Amazon.com, CNET, Eddie Bauer, eMarketer) to view information (*Pennell, Abstract, Fig. 5; Abstract; col. 1, lines 32-62; col. 3, line 53 – col. 4, line 44*) for easier and better personal email account management and ensuring the user's privacy (*Pennell, col. 1, lines 41-45*). Other claimed elements of the dependent are all obvious variation of the well-known features of one connecting user with one or more additional accounts and rejected accordingly.

53. As to claim 2, Pennell discloses accessing electronic data associated with the first account of the user (*Pennell, Abstract, Fig. 5; Abstract; col. 1, lines 32 – 62; col. 3, line 53 – col. 4, line 44*).

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54. As to claim 3, Pennell discloses accessing electronic data associated with the one or more additional accounts of the user (*Pennell, Abstract, Fig. 5; Abstract; col. 1, lines 32 – 62; col. 3, line 53 – col. 4, line 44*).

55. As to claim 4, Pennell discloses accessing electronic data associated with the one or more additional accounts of the user (*Pennell, Abstract, Fig. 5; Abstract; col. 1, lines 32 – 62; col. 3, line 53 – col. 4, line 44*).

56. As to claim 5, Pennell discloses, wherein accessing electronic data comprises retrieving email (*Pennell, Abstract, Fig. 5; Abstract; col. 1, lines 32 – 62; col. 3, line 53 – col. 4, line 44*).

57. As to claim 6, Pennell discloses, wherein accessing electronic data comprises sending e-mail (*Pennell, Abstract, Fig. 5; Abstract; col. 1, lines 32 – 62; col. 3, line 53 – col. 4, line 44*).

58. As to claim 7, Pennell discloses, wherein accessing electronic data comprises downloading one or more files (*Pennell, Abstract, Fig. 5; Abstract; col. 1, lines 32 – 62; col. 3, line 53 – col. 4, line 44*).

59. As to claim 8, Pennell discloses, wherein accessing electronic data comprises retrieving messages posted on a message board (*Pennell, Abstract, Fig. 5; Abstract; col. 1, lines 32 – 62; col. 3, line 53 – col. 4, line 44*).

60. As to claim 9, Pennell discloses, wherein accessing electronic data comprises posting messages to a message board (*Pennell, Abstract, Fig. 5; Abstract; col. 1, lines 32 – 62; col. 3, line 53 – col. 4, line 44*),

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61. As to claim 10, Pennell discloses wherein the first account and the one or more additional accounts of the user comprise different screen names (*Pennell, Abstract, Fig. 5; Abstract; col. 1, lines 32 – 62; col. 3, line 53 – col. 4, line 44*).

62. As to claim 11, Pennell discloses, wherein automatically initiating one or more additional communication sessions comprises automatically switching between the different screen names (*Pennell, Abstract, Fig. 5; Abstract; col. 1, lines 32 – 62; col. 3, line 53 – col. 4, line 44*).

63. As to claim 12, Pennell discloses setting preferences for initiating the first communication session (*Pennell, Abstract, Fig. 5; Abstract; col. 1, lines 32 – 62; col. 3, line 53 – col. 4, line 44*).

64. As to claim 13, Pennell discloses, wherein setting preferences comprises scheduling a time to initiate the first communication session (*Pennell, Abstract, Fig. 5; Abstract; col. 1, lines 32 – 62; col. 3, line 53 – col. 4, line 44*).

65. As to claim 14, Pennell discloses setting preferences for initiating the one or more additional communications sessions (*Pennell, Abstract, Fig. 5; Abstract; col. 1, lines 32 – 62; col. 3, line 53 – col. 4, line 44*).

66. As to claim 15, Pennell discloses, wherein setting preferences comprises scheduling a time to automatically initiate the one or more: additional communications session (*Pennell, Abstract, Fig. 5; Abstract; col. 1, lines 32 – 62; col. 3, line 53 – col. 4, line 44*).

67. As to claim 16, Pennell discloses setting different preferences for initiating the first communication session and for initiating the one or more additional communication

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sessions (*Pennell, Abstract, Fig. 5; Abstract; col. 1, lines 32 – 62; col. 3, line 53 – col. 4, line 44*).

68. As to claim 17, Pennell discloses, wherein the first communication session is initiated automatically (*Pennell, Abstract, Fig. 5; Abstract; col. 1, lines 32 – 62; col. 3, line 53 – col. 4, line 44*).

69. As to claim 18, Pennell discloses running the first communication session and the one or more additional communication sessions in parallel (*Pennell, Abstract, Fig. 5; Abstract; col. 1, lines 32 – 62; col. 3, line 53 – col. 4, line 44*).

70. As to claim 19, Pennell discloses, wherein the user comprises a single member of an online service (*Pennell, Abstract, Fig. 5; Abstract; col. 1, lines 32 – 62; col. 3, line 53 – col. 4, line 44*).

71. As to claim 20, Pennell discloses, wherein the user comprises multiple members of the online service (*Pennell, Abstract, Fig. 5; Abstract; col. 1, lines 32 – 62; col. 3, line 53 – col. 4, line 44*).

72. As to claim 21, Pennell discloses, wherein the multiple members are related (*Pennell, Abstract, Fig. 5; Abstract; col. 1, lines 32 – 62; col. 3, line 53 – col. 4, line 44*).

73. Claim 22 is corresponding computer readable medium claim of claim 1; therefore, it is rejected under the same rationale as in claim 1.

74. Claims 23-26 are similar limitations of claims 3, 5, 7, 10, 11; therefore, they are rejected under the same rationale as in claims 3, 5, 7, 10, 11.

75. Claim 27 is corresponding apparatus claim of claim 1; therefore, it is rejected under the same rationale as in claim 1.

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76. As to claim 28, Pennell discloses, automatically initiating, over the same connection to the host system, one or more additional communication sessions associated with one or more additional accounts of the user maintained by the host system in response to a preference set by the user prior to initiation of the one or more additional communication sessions (*Pennell, Abstract, Fig. 5; Abstract; col. 1, lines 32 – 62; col. 3, line 53 – col. 4, line 44*).

77. As to claim 29, Pennell discloses, automatically initiating, over the same connection to the host system, one or more additional communication sessions between the client system and the host system associated with one or more additional accounts of the user maintained by the host system (*Pennell, Abstract, Fig. 5; Abstract; col. 1, lines 32 – 62; col. 3, line 53 – col. 4, line 44*).

78. As to claim 30, Pennell discloses, wherein authentication information associated with the one or more additional accounts of the user may be used to enable access to the host system (*Pennell, Abstract, Fig. 5; Abstract; col. 1, lines 32 – 62; col. 3, line 53 – col. 4, line 44*).

79. As to claim 31, Pennell discloses, wherein authentication information associated with each of the one or more additional accounts of the user may be used to enable access to the host system (*Pennell, Abstract, Fig. 5; Abstract; col. 1, lines 32 – 62; col. 3, line 53 – col. 4, line 44*).

80. As to claim 32, Pennell discloses, wherein authentication information associated with the first account and at least one of the one or more additional accounts of the user

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may be used to enable access to the host system (*Pennell, Abstract, Fig. 5; Abstract; col. 1, lines 32 – 62; col. 3, line 53 – col. 4, line 44*).

81. As to claim 33, Pennell discloses, wherein establishing the connection between a client system and the host system and initiating a first communication session over the connection associated with the first account of the user occur automatically and without user manipulation (*Pennell, Abstract, Fig. 5; Abstract; col. 1, lines 32 – 62; col. 3, line 53 – col. 4, line 44*).

82. As to claim 34, Pennell discloses, wherein automatically initiating, over the same connection to the host system, one or more additional communication sessions associated with one or more additional accounts of the user maintained by the host system occurs automatically and without user manipulation (*Pennell, Abstract, Fig. 5; Abstract; col. 1, lines 32 – 62; col. 3, line 53 – col. 4, line 44*).

83. As to claim 35, Pennell discloses, automatically synchronizing data related to the first account of the user or the one or more additional accounts of the user wherein, prior to synchronization, the data related to the first account of the user or the one or more additional accounts of the user was stored on only one of the client system or the host system (*Pennell, Abstract, Fig. 5; Abstract; col. 1, lines 32 – 62; col. 3, line 53 – col. 4, line 44*).

84. As to claim 36, Pennell discloses wherein synchronizing data comprises one or more of sending an e-mail message written using the client system when the client system was not connected to the host system, retrieving from the host system an unread e-mail message, posting a message to a newsgroup or message board that was

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written using the client system when the client system was not connected to the host system, and retrieving from the host system a message to a newsgroup or message board (*Pennell, Abstract, Fig. 5; Abstract; col. 1, lines 32 – 62; col. 3, line 53 – col. 4, line 44*).

85. As to claim 37, Pennell discloses, wherein automatically synchronizing data related to each of several accounts associated with the user (*Pennell, Abstract, Fig. 5; Abstract; col. 1, lines 32 – 62; col. 3, line 53 – col. 4, line 44*).

86. As to claim 38, Pennell discloses, wherein the host system is a network access service provider that provides network access service to enable the user to access systems other than the host system, the first account of the user corresponds to a first e-mail account of the user provided by the host system, and one of the one or more additional accounts of the user corresponds to an additional e-mail account provided by the host system (*Pennell, Abstract, Fig. 5; Abstract; col. 1, lines 32 – 62; col. 3, line 53 – col. 4, line 44*).

87. As to claim 39, Pennell discloses, wherein the host system is a network access service provider that provides network access service to enable the user to access systems other than the host system, the first account of the user corresponds to a first screen name for an instant messaging service provided by the host system, and one of the one or more additional accounts of the user corresponds to an additional screen name for the instant messaging service provided by the host system (*Pennell, Abstract, Fig. 5; Abstract; col. 1, lines 32 – 62; col. 3, line 53 – col. 4, line 44*).

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88. As to claim 40, Pennell discloses wherein the host system is a network access service provider that provides network access service to enable the user to access systems other than the host system, one of the first account of the user or at least one of the one or more additional accounts of the user corresponds to a screen name for an instant messaging service provided by the host system, and other of the first account of the user or the at least one of the one or more additional accounts of the user correspond to an e-mail account provided by the host system (*Pennell, Abstract, Fig. 5; Abstract; col. 1, lines 32 – 62; col. 3, line 53 – col. 4, line 44*).

89. As to claim 41, Pennell discloses, wherein automatically initiating comprises automatically initiating, over the same connection to the host system, at least one of the one or more additional communication sessions associated with one or more additional accounts of the user maintained by the host system when the user is not present at the client system (*Pennell, Abstract, Fig. 5; Abstract; col. 1, lines 32 – 62; col. 3, line 53 – col. 4, line 44*).

90. Further references of interest are cited on Form PTO-892, which is an attachment to this action.

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Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hai V. Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-3901. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:00-3:30 Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Caldwell can be reached on 571-272-3868. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Hai V. Nguyen
Examiner
Art Unit 2142



THONG VU

P.E

